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No one's talking after resignation of administrator

By Ann Gibbons
Times Tribune Staff

EAST PALO ALTO — Members of the Municipal Council met behind closed doors with Administrator Ken Goode Wednesday night but gave no clue as to why he resigned without explanation earlier this week.

No official action was taken to accept Goode's resignation at the two-hour executive session that was attended by three of the five Municipal Council members.

Goode made no comment after the meeting about why he slipped a letter of resignation onto his boss's desk Monday.

Members of the council postponed acknowledging the resignation until next Monday when Municipal Council Chairman Brad Stamper returns from a conference in Washington, D.C., said Vice Chairman Henry Anthony.

Although no final decisions were made, it was clear that the members of the council dug into the reasons why Goode resigned and the manner in which they heard about his decision.

Members of the council would not say what they were told, but both Stamper and Goode said earlier in the week that they disagreed

about how the 19,000-member unincorporated community has been run.

The city's drive for cityhood and its mostly unsuccessful efforts to obtain critical development money from San Mateo County have widened a already large rift between members of the council and Goode.

Goode has complained that the community's inability to successfully complete major projects is due to the council's inability to coalesce behind them.

Goode's method of resignation also riled some council members.

Councilwoman Gertrude Wilks said she did not learn about the resignation until two days after Stamper received his letter.

According to Wilks and Anthony, mailed copies of Goode's resignation letter did not arrive at their homes until Wednesday — the same day the public learned about the resignation in the press.

Last week a San Mateo County civil grand jury brought non-criminal accusations against three trustees on the Ravenswood City Elementary School District board.

Councilman Berkeley Dreissel also missed the special meeting because he was tied-up in another meeting.